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Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church on the same topic from the Christian viewpoint.

In Lodi, Cal., to the Emerson School and the Alameda District Convention of Federated Women on "The Fallacies of Preparedness."

In Los Gatos, Cal., to the Grammar School, the High School, the Civic Center, and the Montezuma Boys' School, anti-preparedness speeches.

In San Francisco, Cal., to the Woman's Peace Party, four times; to the Yerba Buena School Teachers' Club; to the Mothers' Club, Laguna Honda School; the San Francisco Mothers' Clubs; the Jewish Council of Women; the Presbyterian Ministers' Association; the To Kalon Club. A debate with Col. R. M. Thompson, president of the Navy League of the United States, was held before the Economic Club of San Francisco.

This department has co-operated with the Anti-Preparedness Committee at Washington, D. C., in securing many letters and protests to Congressmen against "preparedness." The president of our Northern California Peace Society, William C. Allen, has written many excellent articles for the press in opposition to preparedness, and especially in opposition to military drill in the schools. He has also delivered many addresses on these subjects.

The Director acknowledges the helpful co-operation of the Woman's Peace Party in California.

Many high schools on this coast have recently been debating "Peace and Preparedness," and have called on this department for material and briefs. At the request of the Extension Department of the University of California, Mr. Root has prepared a bibliography on "An International Court," to be used by the high schools of California in their discussions on this theme.

Since the last report there have been distributed to schools, clergymen, professional and business men over 110,000 pages of peace literature. There have also been printed 10,000 copies of a leaflet prepared by the Director, and entitled "Military Training in Our Public Schools—Twelve Objections," and 3,000 copies of "Peace Advocates Vindicated," by William C. Allen.

#### NEW ENGLAND DEPARTMENT.

Early in April the Department Director made his fourth trip to Maine since the beginning of the year. At Pittsfield, on April 5, he gave his lecture, "One Hundred Years of Peace," before the students of the Maine Central Institute, and an address on "World Reconstruction After the War" before a union meeting of the churches that was held in the Free Baptist Church. While on his recent trip to New Hampshire he added two new appointments to his program, one of which was a sermon at St. John's Episcopal Church, Claremont, and the other an address before Sullivan County Boys' Y. M. C. A. Convention, at Charlestown, in co-operation with Y. M. C. A. workers from Dartmouth College. While on this trip he helped to arrange with the Executive Committee of the New Hampshire Peace Society for the appointment of Miss Mary N. Chase, of Andover, as secretary of that society, to take the place of Mr. W. W. Thayer, of Concord, whose time is required for his law practice and his duties as secretary of the Board of Trade. Miss Chase is known in New Hampshire as the leader of the suffrage cause there for several years and as a worker in the movement for international peace.

On April 10 Dr. Tryon opened the new lecture course of the East Boston Public Library with his lecture on the "Century of Peace." He was a member of the Church Alliance Conference at Garden City, New York, April 25-28.

#### MASSACHUSETTS PEACE SOCIETY.

The Massachusetts Peace Society reports that the stereopticon lecture which it is offering for use at public meetings is arousing much interest. The society has recently had prepared another series of slides, shorter and more "popular," for use in moving-picture theaters and similar places. No lecture is required in connection with this series; the fundamental principles of the peace movement are developed and explained on the slides themselves. The new series is to be used for the first time in the moving-picture theater at Randolph, Mass.

Secretary Haskins spoke on "The War Against War" at a large public meeting at Hyannis, on April 16, under the auspices of the Woman's Club. Mr. Haskins also addressed several hundred employees of the M. & C. Skirt Company, Boston, on March 31, and the Fales Club of Waltham, on March 28.

#### JOINING THE ISSUE

Controversy over a fact, affirmed by one side and denied by another, is known in law as an "issue." Taking up the two sides respectively is called "joining the issue." A great need of the peace movement in the argument with its opponents is first to "join the issue." With this aim in view this department was started in our August number, and it is hoped that many of our readers will be stirred to add their wisdom to this process of "joining the issue." Any intelligent contribution to the problem, if not too long, will be welcomed.—THE EDITOR.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., April 17, 1916.

To the Editor of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

SIR: The following open letter is at your service.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN C. TRAUTWINE, JR.

FOOLS.

An Open Letter.

Hon. Boies Penrose, United States Senate.

DEAR SIR: In considering the matter of military "preparedness" our Senators and Representatives should give heed to the testimony of our military experts.

In an address, recently presented to the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, Col. George A. Zinn, U. S. Army, says:

Success in war depends upon superiority in military training and leadership, superiority in military strength and in material resources.

In other words, if, after the expenditure of billions of dollars and the enlistment or conscription of millions of men, we still fall short of *superiority* over whatever force is to attack us, we must endure failure, which means defeat and conquest.

To avert this fate by military "preparedness" (Colonel Zinn assures us), nothing short of military *superiority* will avail. We must be *worse* than the worst. We must be *more* German than Germany. "Reasonable preparedness" spells assured defeat.

What are our chances of attaining this necessary superiority?

In a recent pamphlet the National Security League quotes Rear Admiral Davis as saying, before the House Committee on Naval Affairs, December, 1914:

I doubt if *in five years* we could get the navy up to a state of efficiency; for instance, such as that of *one* of the navies of Europe now. I doubt it very much. Whether we *ever* could accomplish it or not is, in fact, a debatable question. I have heard *officers* say it is *impossible*.

And our *army* appears to be even more hopelessly unprepared.

According to our own professional militarists, then, it would require from five years to eternity to bring ourselves into a state, *not* of *superiority*, but only of bare and questionable *equality*, with our expected enemies, *provided* they were so polite as to suspend their own "preparedness" operations and refrain from attacking us until we could catch up with them.

But no one dreams that they would be so considerate. On the contrary, if we go in for "preparedness," they will easily, in spite of our efforts, maintain *their* present immeasurable *superiority* over *us*; and, if they have any thought of attacking us, they will do this before we can even fairly begin our "preparations."

In the pamphlet already mentioned the National Security League quotes our late War Secretary, Garrison, as saying:

In modern warfare a prepared enemy would progress so far on the way to success *in six months*, if his antagonist had to wait *six months* to meet him, that such unprepared antagonist *might as well concede defeat without contest*.

Colonel Zinn opens his Engineers' Club address with the quotation:

The fool never learns at all; the average man learns from experience; the wise man learns from the experience of others.

Our professional militarists are no fools. True, they feverishly urge us to "prepare;" but they of course know (and they have the honesty to tell us) that military "preparedness" is national suicide of a quite inexcusable idiocy.

Our pacifists and mollycoddles are the wise, who learn by the experience of others with "preparedness" and militarism.

Our "patriots," clamoring for "adequate preparedness," are—those who "never learn at all."

Respectfully yours,

JOHN C. TRAUTWINE, JR.

GUILFORD COLLEGE, N. C., April 13, 1916.

To the Editor of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

SIR: I was pleased to have a copy of the matter presented to the Committee on Naval Affairs, received some time ago. I do not see how you could have made a stronger presentation.

Such discussions must have some beneficial effect, although we may not at once see what this is going to be.

I want to tell you how much I value the ADVOCATE OF PEACE. The improvement in the paper is most marked. The entire workmanship is attractive, and the matter you are printing is far more interesting to me than ever before, both on account of the wide range covered by the papers published and by the liberal, sound views of international and world questions.

Yours truly,

L. L. HOBBS.

TUFTS COLLEGE, MASS., March 20, 1916.

To the Editor of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

SIR: Are you not, in your advocacy of peace, overlooking the true cause of war? When St. James says, "Whence come wars and fightings among you?" he does not mention preparedness or militarism!

These seem to be symptoms of a disease, not causes of a disease. Does carrying an insurance policy cause death? Thirty years ago I was in Germany. My German friends were prepared for war and expecting war, but they did not get it. For over a generation Germany has been prepared for war and has not got it. Nor do we know that it would have come when it did, save for the Servian bomb. Those who attribute this war to "Prussian militarism," are they not perhaps guilty of the very sin that has brought on this and all other wars, to wit, race hatred?

As long as we are too "proud to fight" we are in danger of getting into a fight and getting whipped. As long as we look down on the Mexicans as "greasers," who are not worth getting into a quarrel about, Mexico will be a danger to us. The minute we realize that the Mexican is just as much a child of God as ourselves and is entitled to a chance for "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," to education and order, we shall be prepared, not to be neutral, but to co-operate with those who seek these aims, even if it means going into Mexico, not merely to hunt down and have revenge on one bandit, but to organize, feed, clothe, pay, educate, and civilize a Mexican constabulary that shall be a nucleus of a higher civilization. Our present action in Mexico is *not called* war, but it *is war*—a useless war. The action I propose above would be called war, but were we properly prepared with a hundred good aeroplanes and a hundred good officers, who had respect for and the respect of the Mexicans, it would lead to a higher and a lasting peace.

I see little in your paper about the danger of those who yelp about the yellow peril—those who look down on the "nigger" or the "Hun" or the "Dago."

Were I you I would put 90 per cent of my space on those matters and 10 per cent on the danger of letting mercantile interests involve us in war and none at all on "universal service" or "preparedness." Are good boxers likely to get into a street brawl? Are champion rifle and revolver shots fond of shooting at anything but a target? Not so far as I have known them. They are content with the *sport*. And so it would be with universal service. Those who had been through it would be no more fire-eaters than the Knights Templar.

Very respectfully,

ALFRED C. LANE.

The experience of history seems to indicate that the "sport," for those who make a profession of training for war, is war itself, and that their tendency is to get into it. However that may be regarded, we believe that if the writer will give consideration to the whole policy of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE, he will find no little discussion of the issues which he raises. Certainly we agree with him about the necessity of facing the racial and economic conflicts that lead to war, although we do not agree about our right to "civilize" Mexico by military methods.—THE EDITOR.

The library of Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, is endeavoring to complete its set of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE and its predecessor, AMERICAN ADVOCATE OF PEACE. Any of our readers who may have numbers for the years between 1836 and 1892, of which they are willing to dispose, are requested to write to the college librarian.